

## 2 2 DAYS OF FREEDOM

T h e p o w e r o f 2

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## F i g h t i n g B r e a s t C a n c e r

May 3, 2007 by 22days

My 81 year old Mother in law was diagnosed with breast cancer on March 26. Needless to say we were shocked and scared. Her previous mammogram was in December 2005 and didn't show any signs. So sometime in the 16 months the spot appeared. The biopsy returned some scary results.

Invasive Ductal Carcinoma

Histological Grade: High composite score of 9 out of 9

2 of multiple core fragments

Minimal high grade DCIS

Estrogen Receptors Positive 100%

Progesterone receptor 30%

HER-2/neu: Negative

Not knowing what any of that means I turned to the internet. and found some great sites. [Cancer Compass](#) . [National Breast Cancer Foundation](#). and [Breast Cancer.org](#). I read as much as I could, stopped in at message boards and left feeling deep sadness for the women out there fighting breast cancer. There is so much information out there I felt extremely overwhelmed. I decided the best thing at this point was to wait to talk to the surgeon. We met with the surgeon on March 30. The visit was quick, provided little information and added to the list of questions. He advised a lumpectomy as soon as possible with radiation to follow. He wasn't quick to provide answers noting that he would need to get in there to know what was really happening. ok fine. So the surgery was scheduled for April 18.

The wait for the surgery was the hardest part. We decided to go on with our lives and not stress about it until we knew what to stress about. But is that really possible? Not really. I worried day and night. I couldn't wait for the day to come.

Wednesday, April 18. The day of the surgery started with a visit to the imaging center @ 9:00. In order for the surgeon to know exactly where to go they place a wire in her breast leading up to the site of the tumor. She was in there for an hour and came out with a smile, ready to go on to our next stop....

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October 2010

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I'll stop here to tell you a little about my mother in law. You know she is 81, she's a bit heavy for her height and looks great for her age. She has a very strong personality. She is always friendly and talks to **everyone** we meet. everyone. She speaks her mind and loves to joke around. More than once she has made comments to people and made me want to crawl in a hole and hide. Luckily most people laugh it off and move on. But she always laughs and smiles. She is a lot of fun. (except when she obsesses with the latest news story. She like to tell me to take my kids to the doctor for every cough or sniffle. "You know kids are dying from things like this, you better get it checked out" I hear this every time my kids aren't feeling well. If she isn't telling me the kids will die from a cough she is telling me about every recalled product. She was so sure my dog was going to die from the pet food recall. She means well I know. I've learned to laugh smile and say "ok I'll get it checked out". When the tables are turned however she gets really quiet. We didn't really discuss what was happening, and I think she likes it that way. She is happiest when she can worry about everyone else.

So back to our journey from the imaging center. The next stop, the hospital. We arrived at 10:00. They gave me a special number and showed me a large screen that would track her every move. I thought this was great. I could always go tot he board and know where she was. I knew I was in for a long day so I was prepared. I brought both of my library books, an mp3 player, my laptop and some cash for the cafeteria. I pulled out Freakonomics and waited. It wasn't long before we were called to head back to nuclear medicine. A volunteer walked us to where we needed to be and we had a seat. The hospital is in the middle of a remodel so we saw a lot of traffic up and down our hallway. After about 15 minutes of waiting the technician came out to let us know the surgery was postponed 2 hours. So we were in for a long wait. After an hour she went in the room and had the nuclear injections. That part was another hour. I read, listened to music and walked up and down the hall. I was afraid to wander too far as all the halls look the same and I didn't want to end up in one of those tiny rooms. Who knows what would happen if i did. Once they were finished we were sent back to the main waiting room and told it would be another 2 hours before our next stop. I decided I had better get something to eat and headed to the cafeteria.

When she was called back to surgery I was relieved and happy to have things move forward. It took an hour for them to prep her before I could go back and sit with her. She was doing really good and we waited another hour before they wheeled her into surgery. The surgery went very fast. She was in recovery in 1.5 hours. I had a brief moment with the surgeon and he let me know everything went well and he didn't see any abnormalities in the nodes. That was good news. When I went to see her she was smiling and didn't feel any pain. It was 9:30pm at this point. I was ready to go and so was she. They monitored her for a bit then let us go home.

I stayed the night with her just in case there were any problems. She slept great and woke up feeling fine. What a relief. I am very proud of her for keeping everything so positive.

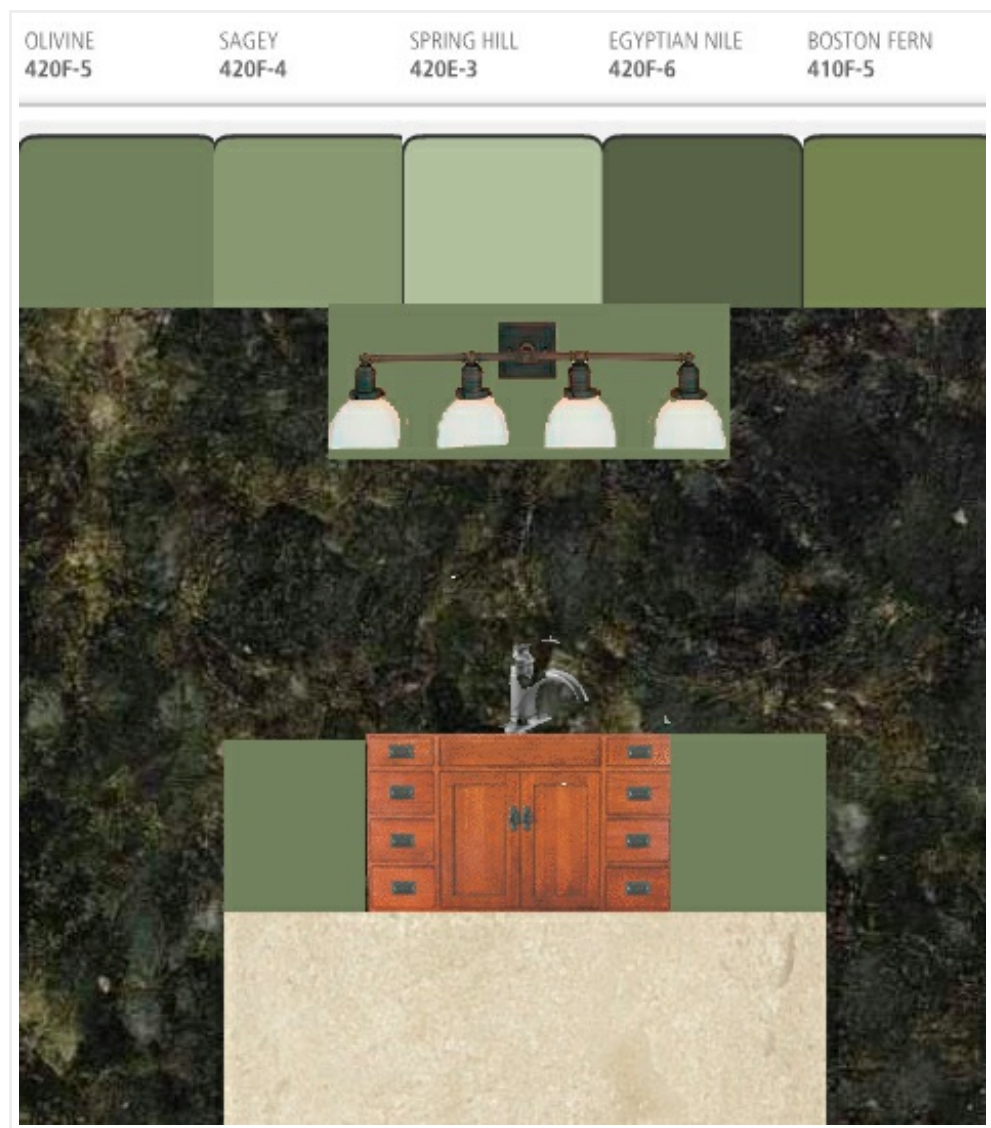
The follow up with the surgeon went great. He said the nodes did come back negative for cancer and the surgery was a success. Next stop radiation.

# T h e d e c i s s i o n

April 14, 2007 by 22days

Here are the color choices with a faucet, light and floor.

Here is a [great site](#) to estimate the amount of tile needed. We are going with a lighter color on the floor to open up the room.



Posted in [bathroom, remodel](#) | [1 Comment](#) »

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## H o m e I m p r o v e m e n t - B

April 14, 2007 by 22days

We are beginning the bathroom remodel today. We have a new [vanity](#) with an [uba tuba marble top](#).

I still need to pick out fixtures, lights, flooring and [paint](#).



Posted in [bathroom, remodel](#) | [Leave a Comment »](#)

## M y f a v o r i t e E x c e l M a c r o

April 13, 2007 by [22days](#)

Here is my formatting macro for an Excel worksheet with imported data.  
It expands the fields, turns off text wrap, adds the auto filter and freezes the pane at B1.

I set the shortcut as ctrl q and use it everyday.



```
Sub Macro1()  
,  
    ' Macro1 Macro  
,  
    ' Keyboard Shortcut: Ctrl+q  
,  
  
    Cells.Select  
    With Selection  
        .HorizontalAlignment = xlGeneral  
        .VerticalAlignment = xlBottom  
        .WrapText = False  
        .Orientation = 0  
        .AddIndent = False  
        .IndentLevel = 0  
        .ShrinkToFit = False  
        .ReadingOrder = xlContext  
        .MergeCells = False  
    End With  
    Cells.EntireColumn.AutoFit  
    Range("B1").Select
```

```
Selection.AutoFilter  
Cells.Select  
Cells.EntireRow.AutoFit  
Range("B2").Select  
ActiveWindow.FreezPanes = True  
End Sub
```

Enjoy!

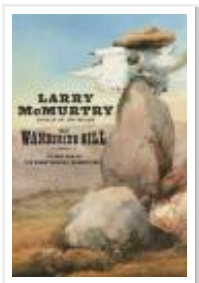
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## N e x t ...

April 13, 2007 by 22days

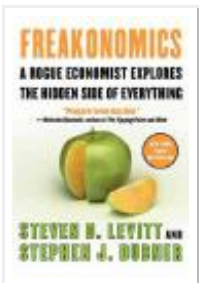
Just put 2 books on reserve at the library.



1.

The wandering hill by Larry McMurtry.

This is book 2 of the Berrybender series. The first book was interesting. I stumbled on the series and feel I should read to the end. I'm already a bit offended by all the Buffalo who have died in the making of this book. Not to mention half the family They stroll down the Missouri river on the way to Yellowstone interacting with Indians and land of the "new" frontier.



2.

Freakonomics : a rogue economist explores the hidden side of everything / Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner

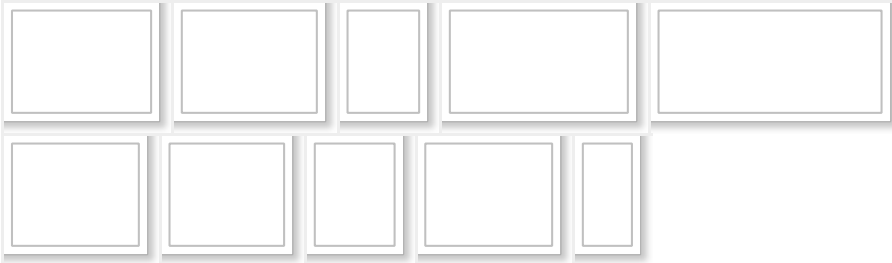
I've been reading the [blog](#) for a while. I am really looking forward to the book. Not sure why it has taken me so long to read it.

Posted in [books](#) | [1 Comment »](#)

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April 12, 2007 by 22days



 14	1		<a href="#"><u>Bob Marley</u></a>	35
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	6		<a href="#"><u>Bob Dylan</u></a>	10
 5	6		<a href="#"><u>The Cure</u></a>	10
	8		<a href="#"><u>Prince</u></a>	8
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1 Apr 2007 – 8 Apr 2007

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D i n n e r

April 12, 2007 by 22days



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Y o u   h a v e   t o   s t a r t   s o m e

April 12, 2007 by 22days

Today is the first of a long journey.

As I begin, I am both nervous and excited.

Feeling very unsure of what to do.



What to say or where to go.

I have always loved to write, but never take the time. So here goes.

I hope you will join me in my journey.

Posted in [Uncategorized](#) | [Leave a Comment »](#)

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## “ G a l l o p i n g F o x l e y ”

April 12, 2007 by [22days](#)

### Tales of the Unexpected by Roald Dahl

I found this while wandering the aisles of my local book store. We have been reading the Roald Dahl stories for kids and I found I really enjoy his writing style. When I saw this in the “adult” section I was curious. I have kept the book at my bedside reading little bits here and there. I have found reading a short story before climbing out of bed on a Saturday morning is very relaxing and a great way to start the day.

I read galloping Foxley yesterday and can’t stop thinking about it. The story starts with the main character going through his day. Every day is the same. Same people taking the train. Passing the same people on the way to work. Everything is consistent and he finds it very comforting. Then one day a stranger breaks the rhythm. It takes a couple days for him to figure out why he is so uneasy with the newcomer. Finally it hits him. This man who has disrupted his ride to work is the same boy who disrupted his childhood. When he finally gets the nerve to introduce himself a strange and interesting thing happens. Dahl leaves you wondering who is this man who rides the train and smokes cigars. Is it who you think it is? Is he staying in control. Or is it just a coincidence.

I look forward to reading the remaining stories. I love the way Dahl leaves you guessing.

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